

Submitter: Brad Peters  
On Behalf Of: BradPetersforOregon.com  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1541

Chair and members of the committee, SB 1541 creates retroactive, open-ended liability for activities that were legal and regulated at the time, based on future modeling of damages that remain undefined and unpredictable. Climate impacts such as wildfire severity are influenced by multiple factors, including land management choices, yet the bill assigns sweeping financial responsibility without clearly bounded standards or proportionality. Although aimed at large producers, costs are likely to flow through wholesale markets, increasing fuel prices, freight costs, and potentially electricity rates for Oregon families and businesses. By tying liability to global emissions and out-of-state conduct, the bill also raises serious constitutional and legal uncertainty that could deter investment and embroil the state in prolonged litigation.

Gubernatorial Candidate